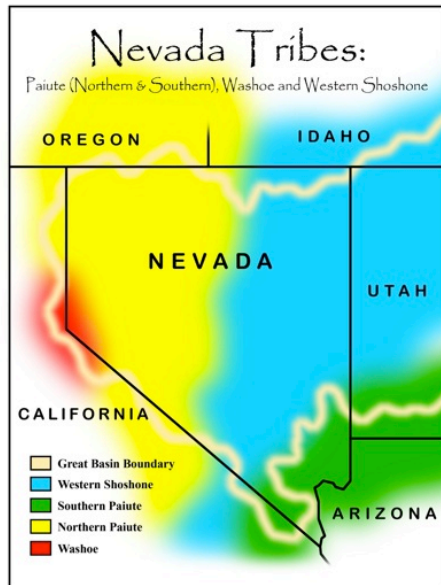


## Embracing the Past, Educating for the Future



Map showing the traditional boundaries for the three tribes in Nevada.  
Map adapted from the Nevada State Museum.

### Excerpt from document...

*In 1885, Sarah Winnemucca started the school for Indian students on her brother's ranch. The school was believed to be a model for Native American Indian education, and was far ahead of its time.*

### Nevada Indian Tribes

*Nevada was one of the last major frontiers to be explored and settled by Euro-Americans. This land offered native people the ability to sustain ethnic identity longer than other parts of the country. Even through past tribulations, they have remained strong.*

-Nevada Indian Territory

*Quality Education for Every  
Nevada Student*

- Office of Educational  
Opportunity



If you are interested in receiving information on Indian Education please contact the Education Programs Professional for Indian Education at the Nevada Department of Education.

The Education Programs Profession for Indian Education works with School Districts, Schools and Tribes and Tribal organizations.

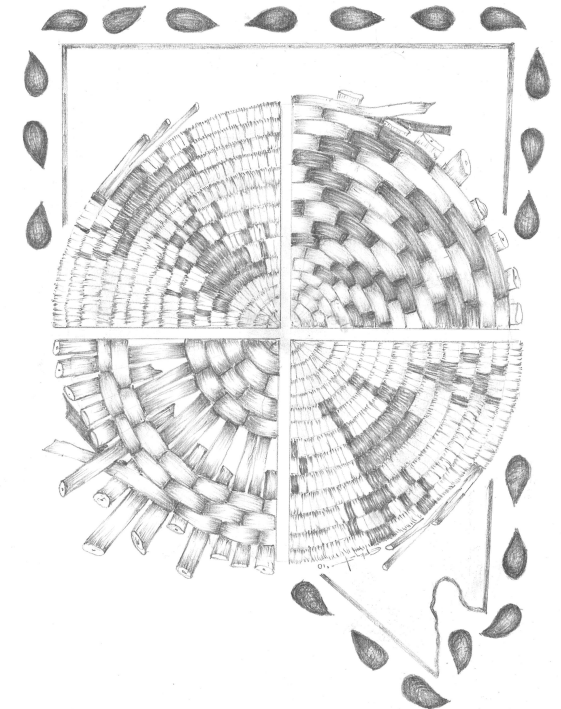
**Fredina Drye-Romero**  
Education Programs Professional

(775) 687-9143  
fromero@doe.nv.gov  
700 East Fifth Street  
Carson City, NV 89703

All Indian Education materials can be found at:  
[http://www.doe.nv.gov/Indian\\_Education](http://www.doe.nv.gov/Indian_Education)

## Indian Education

Nevada Department of  
Education



# Background Information

The curriculum Guide was developed in response to the 1979 Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 389.150, Programs and Curricula for American Indians.

The primary purpose of this document is to provide historical and contemporary background knowledge for teachers about American Indian, specifically those tribes in Nevada. The document offers accurate information on



*Our Elders*

the tribes in Nevada in hopes that all Nevada students will gain a deeper understanding of the culture, customs and history of the first peoples.

The curriculum guide covers topics such as the Federal Indian Policies at the federal, state, and local levels, as well as emphasis on Indian education nationally and locally in our home state of Nevada. Information covers historical and contemporary events and lifestyles of the tribes in Nevada and truly emphasizes that tribes continue to exist today.



*Dot-So-La-Lee,  
Washoe Basket Maker*



*Stewart Indian Boarding School Students,*



*Sarah Winnemucca, Northern Paiute*



*Classroom teachers and tribal elders, Lesson Plan  
Writing Retreat, 2012*



*Elders teaching in the classroom*

## *History and Contemporary Lifestyles of the Northern Paiute, Southern Paiute, Washoe and Western Shoshone* **Essential Understandings**

**Essential Understanding 1:** There is great diversity among the 4 tribal Nations of Nevada in their languages, cultures, histories, and governments. Each Nation has a distinct and unique cultural heritage that contributes to modern Nevada.

The 4 tribal Nations consist of 27 tribes/bands located on both reservations and colonies located throughout Nevada.

**Essential Understanding 2:** There is great diversity among individual American Indians as identity is developed, defined and redefined by entities, organizations, and people. A continuum of Indian identity, unique to each individual, ranges from assimilated to traditional. There is no generic American Indian.

**Essential Understanding 3:** The ideologies of Native traditional beliefs and spirituality persist into modern day life as tribal cultures, traditions, and languages are still practiced by many American Indian people and are incorporated into how tribes govern and manage their affairs.

Additionally, each tribe has its own oral histories, which are as valid as written histories. These histories pre-date the “discovery” of North America.

**Essential Understanding 4:** Reservations are lands that have been reserved by the tribes for their own use through treaties, statutes, and executive orders and were not “given” to them. The principle that land should be acquired from the Indians only through their consent with treaties involved three assumptions.

**Essential Understanding 5:** Federal policies, put into place throughout American history, have affected Indian people and still shape who they are today. Much of Indian history can be related through several major federal policy periods.

**Essential Understanding 6:** History is a story most often related through the subjective experiences of the teller. With the inclusion of more and varied voices, histories are being rediscovered and revised. History told from an American Indian perspective frequently conflicts with the stories mainstream historians tell.

**Essential Understanding 7:** Under the American legal system, Indian tribes have sovereign powers, separate and independent from the federal and state governments. However, the extent and breadth of tribal sovereignty is not the same for each tribe.